

REMARKS

A. Status of the Application

Claims 1-49 were pending. This paper cancels claim 49 and amends claim 43. No new matter was introduced. Therefore, claims 1-48 are presented for reconsideration.

B. Amendment to Claim 43

Claim 43 has been amended in a non-narrowing manner and not in response to any rejection or objection. Applicants amended the claim to correct an inadvertent typographical error.

C. Section 102 Rejections

Claim 49 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,342,698 to Stark *et al.* Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that the Office has not analyzed this claim according to the law of Section 112, paragraph 6. However, the cancellation of this claim renders this rejection moot.

D. Allowable Subject Matter

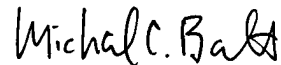
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter of claims 1 through 48. To the extent that any reasons for allowable subject matter state or suggest that patentability is based on features absent from the literal claim language, Applicants respectfully disagree. The claims are believed to be allowable because all requirements of patentability are met and none of the references disclose, teach, or suggest the explicit elements recited within the claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that these remarks fully respond to all outstanding matters for this application. Applicants respectfully request a notice of allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3018.

Respectfully submitted,



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